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## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

reports on civil defense measures in  
Baku, Kirovabad, Ashkhabad, and Ukhta

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2. The civil defense training in Azerbaidzhan SSR and presumably throughout the entire USSR was considerably intensified since 1956, whereas prior to that time the attendance of MPVO lectures and <sup>practical</sup> ~~theoretical~~ training were left more or less to the discretion of the individual. During 1956 and later attendance has been enforced. [redacted] the factory workers also were forced to attend such lectures and to participate in defense training. Special emphasis was placed on civilian defense training of students, each of whom in turn had to instruct and train 10 people among their neighbors. [redacted]

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3. There was a rather elaborate project of a mock air attack to be carried out in Baku sometime in June 1957. It was preceded by a number of lectures given by the MPVO instructors and special instructions were given to block wardens (upravdomy) in every individual rayon of Baku. The main idea emphasized in this instruction was to clear the streets and other open places of people as soon as possible after the alarm signal. Those close to their quarters had to go immediately there, turn on the radio and wait for further instructions. Those far

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away from their quarters on the alarm signal were to proceed immediately into the nearest public air raid shelter, of which there were a large number in Baku remaining from World War II. People at work had to remain at their working place waiting for instructions broadcast by radio. When and if the instruction would be to enter the shelter, this then should be done in an orderly way, each person going to the assigned place. A large number of houses in Baku had their own shelters left from World War II days. People without shelters in their homes were assigned to the nearest public shelter. Certain measures were taken in the fields of medical and fire-fighting services and the corresponding details were organized.

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Several days prior to the planned mock attack, the police in Baku were issued gas masks which they carried whenever on duty. The population was not, however, issued gas masks. There were some rumors in Baku that a high ranking Soviet military official from Moscow was going to be in charge of the above-mentioned civilian defense exercise. Some people mentioned in this connection the name of Marshal ROKOSOVSKIY. Either because this man did not come or for some other reason, the exercise was first postponed for three days, then again for one day, and finally it was cancelled.

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4. no new air raid shelters built in Baku after World War II, or modification of those left from the war days, except one located in the knishnyy passazh on Eliten Nizami which was allegedly reconstructed in February or March 1957. the partially completed subway tunnels in Baku had been prepared as air raid shelters. The construction of the subway in Baku started in the summer of 1951 or 1952; and for some unknown reason construction was discontinued around 1954. The subway project was considered classified (zasekrecht enny) and

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the majority of the subway construction organization's employees were MVD people. Approximately at the same time as Baku's construction, other subway projects in a number of other large cities in the USSR were launched, among them Kiev, Kharkov and Tbilisi.

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in Tbilisi construction was discontinued. The term used in connection with the discontinuance of construction in Baku and Tbilisi was "preserved" (zakonservirovan). Following the discontinuance of work on subways, rumors were heard in Baku that under the disguise of subways, air raid shelters were built and completed. The word has been passed that for some reason a decision was made to discontinue or postpone the construction of subways.

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five entrances to the subway in Baku, having the shape of steel towers approximately 10 meters high. All of them are surrounded by a high wall. No visiting is authorized. The subway entrances in Baku are located on Ulitsa Dimitrova, Pervomayskaya, in Pyatry Zavoksal'nyy, Park Ordobadi, and close to Baku Television Station. the subway tunnels were not planned to be used as shelters in the previously-mentioned air raid exercise in June 1957.

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5. approximately in December 1956 or January 1957 all students of Azerbaidzhan Industrial Institute in Baku, according to a prepared schedule, were ordered to report to the Institute Clinic for blood analysis to determine the blood types of individuals. this was a general regulation affecting all educational institutions in Baku and it was done for the first time since World War II. Students, however, were not informed of the blood type they had. In connection with this regulation, there were many

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rumors in Baku that there was a danger of war.

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1. In 1956 all oil prospecting stands received a poster in color, presenting the explosion of an atom bomb and showing a man lying face down, flat on the ground. An issue of these posters remained permanently with the stands as a part of the stand's equipment, and the stand's foreman was made responsible for the safekeeping of the posters.

2. Starting with 1956 every one or two months brief instructions on atomic warfare defense were given to the stand crews by the chief of the Work Safety Section of the prospecting trust administration (nachal'nik tekhniki bezopasnosti tresta.) The workers were informed that although an atomic bomb was very dangerous, the defense against its dangerous effects was possible. On the alarm signal workers were to put on gas masks and white overcoats or to wrap themselves in white bed sheets and then to lie flat on the ground, face down, with their head farthest away from the explosion. The workers were also told that the gas masks and white overcoats would be issued in due time. No instructions were given for actions following the attack. The instruction on atomic war defense was actually only a small fraction of the work safety instruction and did not take more than a few minutes. No hydrogen and cobalt bombs were ever mentioned, neither was it explained how the workers should determine in advance the explosion spot in order to take the proper position on the ground.

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3. **No air raid shelters were ever made for oil prospect<sup>ing</sup> crews.**

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1. [redacted] Azerbaidschan Industrial Institute in Baku [redacted]

[redacted] a foreigner was barred from instruction given in military training. [redacted] however [redacted] in 1956 the time allocated to theoretical military training was increased but at the same time the practical training was shortened.

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2. There were rumors in Baku that all new buildings to be constructed in the city would be provided with modern air raid shelters. The term used in this connection was ubeghishoba [redacted]

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3. The subway construction which was launched in Baku several years ago was discontinued in 1954 or 1955. There were rumors that the tunnels built for this project would be used as shelters in a future war. [redacted]

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[redacted] the public was not permitted to inspect the subway construction. There was one entrance to the subway tunnel in the immediate vicinity of Bahmanli Electric Train Railway Station. The entrance was surrounded by a 2 1/2 to 3 meter high wooden board fence. Another entrance was next to the Lenin Park. Until sometime prior to late 1956, this entrance was also surrounded by a similar wooden board fence which was eventually removed. [redacted]

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4. The new Dom Sovietoy built in 1952 or 1953 on Prospekt Stalina in Baku, which houses the Azerbaidzhan government or at least six or seven of the Azerbaidzhan ministries, has it is rumored a modern air raid shelter. No further information.

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1. The textile combine I/M. Orishanikidze in Kirovabad employed approximately 5,000 workers. [redacted] there was only one meeting held at the factory sometime at the beginning of 1957 where some information on atomic warfare was given to the workers. This was done by the Assistant Director of the combine (fnn) KERIMOV. It was actually part of a political propaganda harangue in which KERIMOV went back to the World War II period, blaming the United States for its attempt to bleed white the Soviet Union by postponing constantly the opening of the Second Front. Immediately after World War II, KERIMOV said, the Americans started with their preparations for World War III with the intent of enslaving the Soviet people. They have invented the atom bomb and have been working on other very dangerous means of destruction. The <sup>general</sup> ~~final~~ content of KERIMOV's speech was that war was coming and therefore the Soviet people had to take the necessary defense measures. Several times KERIMOV was interrupted in his speech by shouts from the audience: "Stop with this war talk," "We have had enough of war," "If war comes, we would know what to do," and similar statements. Finally the excitement amongst the listeners rose to such a degree that nothing could be heard of what KERIMOV was saying. The majority of the workers left the meeting; [redacted]

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[redacted] in the final part of his speech KERIMOV gave some basic instruction on atomic defense. [redacted]

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2. At no other meeting were instructions on civil defense given.

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At the children's movie house (detkino) in Kirovabad,

once a movie showing an explosion of an atomic bomb and defense measures, which were to put on<sup>A</sup> gas mask , a white sheet or sack over the head and shoulders, and to drop flat face down on the ground.

3. There was no air raid shelter at the textile combine, nor

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any shelter available in Kirovabad.

the term DOSAAF used in connection with collections made from time to time among the population for the Soviet Airforce or Army. DOSAAF is responsible for paramilitary training of youth

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1.

**Azerbaidzhan Agricultural Institute in Kirovabad**

lecture on atomic war-

fare given to all students of the institute

The lecturer was

the institute's Professor of Chemistry (fn) YUNUSYAEV. Information on basic characteristics and explosive effects of atomic, hydrogen and cobalt bombs was given to listeners, supported by discussion of results of the atom bomb attack on Japan during World War II. the temperature of an atom bomb explosion given by the lecturer was from 500,000°C. to 1,000,000°C., the hydrogen bomb ten times as much, and a cobalt bomb 50 times as much as the atomic. No atomic warfare defense measures were described and the major part of the lecture was devoted to experiences obtained from the two atom bombs dropped on Japan during World War II.

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2. There were, of course, regular lectures for NPVO and DOSAAF in Kiro-

vabad.

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3.

There remained from World War

II a number of primitive air raid shelters in basements of individual buildings,

although many had deteriorated since. no large sized

shelters are available to Kirovabad's population

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1. The 16th Brick Factory was located close to the Military Airfield in Ashkhabad and employed approximately 500 workers. [redacted] in several meetings held at the factory some basic instruction on civil defense was given. [redacted]

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[redacted] the workers were instructed to run on the signal of the air raid alarm to the airfield administration building, located several hundred meters from the brick factory where they would be issued gas masks and accepted to the airfield shelters. The workers were told that these shelters were very large and there would be room for many thousands of people. [redacted]

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[redacted] the shelters [redacted] are guarded by sentries and the entrance was forbidden to everybody except the personnel in charge.

2. The questions raised by some workers at the meetings as to whether there would be sufficient time available in case of an air attack to run to the air force administrative building to get the gas masks and to reach the shelter the entrance of which was approximately 200 meters away had remained unanswered.

3. Instruction on civil defense to factory workers was given approximately once a month. It was given either by the plant manager or his deputy. [redacted]

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[redacted] nothing was said about atomic warfare and defense measures. [redacted]

[redacted] DOHAAP in Ashkhabad was active in training school students [redacted]

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[REDACTED] 25X1  
in various sports, rifle firing, military drill and parachute jumps. The latter

training was conducted from three towers in Ashkhabad outskirts [REDACTED] 25X1

[REDACTED] DOSAAF  
The members of ~~the group~~ were 25X1  
given this training without any monetary compensation. Those not belonging to

~~the group~~ DOSAAF who volunteered for a jump were given 50 rubles.

[REDACTED] 25X1  
[REDACTED] the glass factory located close to the

Ashkhabad railroad station had air-raid shelters for the employed workers. [REDACTED] 25X1  
[REDACTED]

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1. During the period from 1956 to 1957 sporadic lectures on civil defense were given to workers of the oil refinery (Ukhimaskiy Neftepererabnyy Zavod--UNPR). Sometimes these lectures were given once a month and sometimes three to four months elapsed before the next one took place. Lectures were given by the Shop Manager or the Assistant Manager. Attendance was enforced and absent workers were deprived of their bonus which was normally given to the workers at the time the plant fulfilled its production plan.

2. Basic information on the destructive power of an atom bomb was given to the workers at these lectures. It was mentioned that the temperature developed at the time of explosion is over 1,000,000°C., and that the most primitive defense measure would be to drop flat on the ground with the head away from the explosion site. A visual aid in the form of a drawing showing a soldier lying flat on the ground 200 meters away from the explosion was shown to the workers. However, when the lecturer was asked how was it possible that this soldier would remain alive only 200 meters away from the spot where the temperature would be over 1,000,000°C., the lecturer was not able to answer the question and said he was only communicating to the workers what he, himself, was told to tell them. No hydrogen bombs or any other kind of modern weapon were mentioned in the lectures.

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3. Other defense measures mentioned in the lectures were purely theoretical for the simple reason that the necessary defense means were not available. For instance, the workers were advised to put on white robes or to wrap themselves into white bed sheets but were not told how or where to get these robes; they were told to put on gas masks but there were only one dozen in the plant which were used in emergency work on the pipelines; and they were told to get out of the plant and to enter the air raid shelter but there were none for the workers, or to use any kind of a natural shelter near to the plant site.

4. [redacted] the plant has only one small underground air raid shelter constructed in the open, in the immediate vicinity of the plant's administrative building, to be used only by the administrative personnel. [redacted]

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[redacted] it was covered with approximately one meter of earth and [redacted]

[redacted] some metal and rubberized layers were used to increase protection.

5. It was envisaged that the air raid alarm would be given by the plant's sirens and this was practically all that the authorities were responsible for, because the rest was left to the individual who, as they had been instructed by the lecturer, had to attempt "to save himself" by wrapping himself into bed sheets, leaving his quarters or job, running into the open space and dropping face down, flat on the ground, preferably in a ditch or hole or a depression in the ground, with his head farthest away from the explosion place. The question was asked, "How were the workers able to determine in advance where the explosion would occur in order to be able to determine the position of the body?" The lecturer, of course, was not able to answer this question.

6. [redacted] no medical and fire-fighting details within the civil defense were organized at the plant. These problems were not even discussed at the lectures. [redacted] suggested decontamination measures after an

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[redacted] 25X1  
atomic attack were to shake the radio active fallout from the clothes and to wash the exposed parts of the body with water and soap. When and how this was to be done was left also to the ingenuity of the workers.

7. [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] on one unidentified night in the summer of 1957 the sirens started blowing. The people came out of their quarters and just remained in the streets, looking around and asking each other for an explanation. There was no explanation, nobody knew what this meant and after some time the people returned to their apartments. No explanation was given the next or following days and eventually people forget this event. 25X1